

Utah State Charter School Board Meeting
Minutes
February 11, 2010
North & South Board Rooms
Utah State Office of Education

DRAFT

Members present: Julie Adamic, Brian Allen, Tim Beagley, Yolanda Francisco-Nez, Tom Morgan, John Pingree

Members excused: Scott Smith

Staff present: Marlies Burns, Paul Crawford, Cory Kanth, Jeannie Rowland, Jo Schmitt, Georgia Loutensock

Others present: Deputy Superintendent Martell Menlove, Janet Cannon, Terry Smith, Aaron Frazier, Gordon Horton, Adam Kuntz, Murat Biyik, Tina Kling, Art Erickson, Ben Kling, Jacob Kling, Holly Barringham, Jim Barringham, Paula Smith, Gayleen Van Wagoner, Curtis Dimond, Sandra Dimond, Janette Howell, Walter Kazuazik, Heidi Kramer, Tim Slocum, Jeni Papadakis, Lucian Rasmussen, Tonia Huston, Mindy Nickell, Leslie Miller, Anthony Azerlido, Michelle Peterson, Yamuz Durmus, Gloria Cabral, Marie Jess, John Jess, David DeTienne, Jaime Hamilton, Sarah Ahmed, Jennifer Knight, Barbara Alldredge, Gary Fullmer, Wendy Yancey, Judy Lee, Danielle Lueck, Judy Wall, Jim Hyde, Bill Tandy, Janene Bowen, Donna Pence, Karlene Welker, Dallis Nordstrom, Chris Anderson, Barbara Alldredge, Juanita Benioni, Gary Fullmer, Erin Preston, Larry Smith, Carolyn Sharette, Tim Evansich, Shanna Francis, Nancy Lindeman, Tyler Bodrero, Chris Anderson, Dallas Nordstrom-Anderson, Robert Ralphs, Jim Hyde

Call to Order

Chair Brian Allen called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

Public Comments

Students, parents, and administration representing Beehive Science and Technology Academy expressed their thoughts and feelings regarding the future of the school.

Janette Howell, representing Utah Connections Academy, thanked the SCSB for their efforts to support high quality charter schools in Utah; also Ms. Howell expressed support of a mentoring process.

Sammy Laird expressed her feelings and support for Bear River Charter School regarding founding member status for enrollment of the school.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Member Tim Beagley and seconded by Vice Chair Tom Morgan to approve the minutes from the January 14, 2010 State Charter School Board Meeting. The motion was carried unanimously.

Charter School Board Chair's Report

Because of time limits of the meeting, there was no Charter School Board Chair's report.

Information Items

Facility update for schools opening in fall 2010

- Representatives of Quail Run Primary School informed the SCSB they have broken ground, but because of weather and getting finances in order, things have been delayed. However, they feel there is still time

to build the facility and meet their timeline for opening. Their alternative sites and contingency plans are in place, including a vacant WalMart that is 2.5 miles from existing site.

- Representatives of Bear River Charter School informed the SCSB the school is on track to open this fall. They reached a lease agreement with a property owner of an existing facility, but that agreement required a number of renovations. Because of those requirements there has been an architect and construction firm acquired for demolition and construction. They are in the process of hiring faculty and will be conducting a lottery next week.
- Representatives of APA-Accelerated School informed the SCSB they have not succeeded in placing a qualified school construction bond for their facility. They will not be building a facility this year, but have hopes for an opportunity of an existing facility which would require renovation. If they are successful in being able to lease the property, the school will start operation this fall. If not, they will have to defer opening for a year. Member Tim Beagley questioned the location of their planned site. He was informed the area they are planning to locate is South Jordan.
- Representatives of Maria Montessori Academy informed the SCSB they have purchased land and contracted with Academica West which is working with them through the building process. They feel the construction process is in line for the time scheduled for opening.
- Representatives of Weilenmann School of Discovery informed the SCSB that Hogan Construction is the developer of the property. They have relocated the sewer; have a retaining wall in place, and started footings and foundation. The framing packages are framed and complete and are sitting in a warehouse ready to be installed.

Action Items

Workgroup for changes to applications and amendments

A summary of the discussion regarding the application/amendment process was distributed. Director Marlies Burns informed the SCSB of that process.

Motion was made by Member John Pingree and seconded by Vice Chair Tom Morgan to accept the discussed process. The motion was carried unanimously.

Reconsideration of Charter School Applications

Chair Brian Allen proposed to the SCSB to reconsider the five charter schools that had applied for charter for the 2011-2012 year, and did not receive tentative approval, to allow them to continue to work forward with the possibility of approval. Mr. Allen stated that if this application/amendment process had been in place, these schools would be in the mentoring phase of the process.

Motion was made by Member John Pingree and seconded by Member Yolanda Francisco-Nez to reconsider those five charter schools for the mentoring process and move forward. The motion was carried unanimously.

Executive Session

Motion was made by Vice Chair Tom Morgan to move into an executive session for the purpose of pending litigation, character and professional competence and discussion regarding charter schools. The Board was polled and by unanimous consent of those present, the Board moved into an executive session at 10:30 a.m.

Motion was made by Member Yolanda Francisco-Nez and seconded by Vice Chair Tom Morgan to reconvene into open meeting. Motion carried with Members Julie Adamic, Brian Allen, Tim Beagley, Yolanda Francisco-Nez, Tom Morgan, John Pingree voting in favor; Member Scott Smith absent. The board reconvened at 12:30 p.m.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Tom Morgan and seconded by Member Tim Beagley to acknowledge the changes made by Merit College Preparatory Academy and to place the school on probation through November 2010; to give the school opportunity to increase enrollment numbers to 314 students for the October 1 count and to reconvene in November and look at the school's progress. The motion was carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Member Tim Beagley and seconded by Member John Pingree to have Beehive Science and Technology Academy's charter be placed on probation for a period one year and the charter could be revoked at anytime, if the following conditions are not complied:

- the Utah State Office of Education Charter School Staff have immediate access to all financial records, including Quick Books;
- the Utah State Charter School Board re-constitute the governing board of the charter school;
- the Charter School immediately become compliant in all State and Federal laws and show compliance with their UPIPS Report;
- the Charter School immediately clarify, with legal documents, all loans and donations are effective immediately and permanent;
- the school comply with Utah State Office's request for information quickly; and
- provide the Utah State Office of Education, in the very near future, a detailed plan of how the charter school will acquire and use portable classrooms.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Adjourn

Motion was made to adjourn at 12:45 p.m.by Member John Pingree.